

Board of Education of East Newark, Hudson County, NJ
Regular Meeting Minutes March 28, 2022

Board President Carla Fernandes called the Regular Meeting of the East Newark Board of Education to order on Monday March 28, 2022 at 6:17 p.m., led the Board in the Salute to the Flag and read the following Opening Statement:

OPENING STATEMENT

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Jersey Journal and posted at the Borough Clerk's Office

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Fernandes, President
Ms. Ditchkus
Ms. Lopez
Ms. Perez

Absent: Ms. Pinto, Ms. Sarro

Also Present: Dr. Richard Corbett, Superintendent
R. Paul Vizzuso, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Frances Febres, Board Attorney

INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:34 p.m.

Ms. Fernandes read the following statement:

Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education hereby adjourns to Executive Session in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., for the reason(s) identified below. The minutes of the discussion during Executive Session will be available to the public when such minutes have been approved by the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1 and the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

- Pending or anticipated litigation
- Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employees

Motion by: Ms. Ditchkus
Seconded by: Ms. Perez

All in favor

OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO PUBLIC SESSION – 6:39 p.m.

Motion by: Ms. Ditchkus
Seconded by: Ms. Lopez

All in favor

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments from the public

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THE REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- **Winter 4 Kids** was cancelled on March 12 and March 26 due to weather. Unfortunately, our middle school students experienced only one excursion to the slopes. If we participate in this activity next year, we will consider alternating the dates so both schools have equal opportunity.
- **I-Ready** is an important diagnostic tool that allows teachers to measure the academic growth of each student in Math and ELA. We use I-Ready to determine academic success in achieving our district goals. For years, the board has approved incentives which motivate students to achieve to their highest potential. For example, two years ago students were working towards a visit to the American Dream Mall. Then the Covid-19 pandemic occurred effectively ending the incentive. This year, with your support, I would like to offer students a similar incentive. This, we hope will motivate our students to work hard and feel proud of their accomplishments.
- A **Preschool** planning meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, March 30 to discuss an additional preschool class to serve more of our young students, and the space requirements to move the existing East Newark preschool classroom to Holy Cross. In attendance will be myself, Mr. Vizzuso, Fr. John and our Architect, Mr. Peter Campisano.
- We are still in the process of planning upgrades to the **middle school kitchen** and acquiring quotes for the additional appliances and supplies. The goal is to have the kitchen ready for use by September 2022.
- On March 10, our Gifted and Talented students attended an environmental planning field trip to the Meadowlands Environmental Center where they built their own 3-D model of an environmentally friendly town. They built houses, commercial buildings, businesses, schools, roads, bridges, etc. Before building the model, they discussed the issues of flooding and poor water quality that currently effect many New Jersey citizens. They then discussed the benefits and concerns of a few possible land uses and attempted to design a model that would balance the wants with the needs of a community. They also considered the best practices for preserving the integrity of the watershed. Before building, they analyzed the rubric which consisted of four categories. After they built the model they explained why they selected a particular design. Of a maximum of 12 points, our students scored 11! We are very proud of them.
- As you know, our fourth district goal includes the renovation of the East Newark Public School building exterior. This project has been stalled due to the Town's failure to sell the bonds. In the meantime, the building continues to deteriorate in a way that may adversely affects the health and safety of our school community. I have already advised the board of specific examples and the architect's warning that the moisture that penetrates the building envelope will continue to be the cause of mold and interior deterioration. These two photos illustrate the most recent effects of the deteriorating building envelope:

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Figure 1: Second floor landing - exterior west wall



Figure 2: Bulging wall against handrail

Until the exterior of the building is renovated, our school will continue to deteriorate.

● **Dates to Remember:**

- On April 16, the PTO will be sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt for all students.
- Our annual talent show will return on May 6
- Field Day will be held on June 7 (Rain date: June 8). Maschio's will be providing students with a delicious bar-b-cue.
- The PTO plans to host a graduation party on June 10.
- June 16 is our tentative date for Graduation.

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G & T students at the Environmental Cent.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD COMMENT R 3.1173.22 – 3.1199.22

Motion by: Mr. Perez
Seconded by: Ms. Ditchkus

ROLL CALL: YES 4 NO 0 ABSTAIN: Ms. Fernandes 3-1199-22

- 3-1173-22** Approval of Minutes – Regular & Emergency Meeting Minutes
- 3-1174-22** Approve February Financials Reports
- 3-1175-22** Approve February Budget Transfers
- 3-1176-22** Approve Bill List
- 3-1177-22** Approve 2022-2023 Budget
- 3-1178-22** Approve Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
- 3-1179-22** Approve Policy Second Readings
- 3-1180-22** Approve Sale of the 2010 Chevrolet School Bus
- 3-1181-22** Approve FY22 ESEA Amendment
- 3-1182-22** Approve Termination of Contract with Sawtelle Learning Center for student# 6406190387
- 3-1183-22** Approve Termination of Home Instruction for student#4778098519
- 3-1184-22** Approve Tuition Contract with Bonnie Brae
- 3-1185-22** Approve the Revised Tuiton Contract with the Kearny Board of Education
- 3-1186-22** Approve Evaluations through Gloucester County Special Services School District
- 3-1187-22** Approve Kid Clan Services Agreement
- 3-1188-22** Approve Ashley Fullerton as Substitute Teacher
- 3-1189-22** Approve Elida Rueda Duque as Substitute Teacher
- 3-1190-22** Approve Job Description for Grade 8 “Graduation” Coordinator
- 3-1191-22** Approve Derris Brown as Yearbook and Graduation Coordinator
- 3-1192-22** Approve Isabella Luniewski as Yearbook and Graduation Coordinator
- 3-1193-22** Amend Resolution #11-1104-21
- 3-1194-22** Amend Resolution #11-1105-21
- 3-1195-22** Amend Resolution #3-1171-22
- 3-1196-22** Approve I-ready Incentive
- 3-1197-22** Approve Powerschool License and Subscription
- 3-1198-22** Approve Remember Me Project Agreement
- 3-1199-22** Approve Board Counsel to Serve as Indemnification For Board Member

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BOARD COMMENT

None

RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE R 3.1173.22 – 3.1199.22

Motion by: Ms. Ditchkus

Seconded by: Ms. Perez

ROLL CALL: YES 4 NO 0 ABSTAIN: Ms. Fernandes 3-1199-22

3-1173-22 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following minutes, as submitted.

- February 28, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- March 17, 2022 Emergency Meeting Minutes

3-1174-22 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the financial reports as submitted, which include the monthly Board Secretary's report and the Treasurer of School Monies report for the month ended February 28, 2022. The Board notes that the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports are in balance for the cash receipts and disbursements for the month ended February 28, 2022 and

Be It Further Resolved, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c), I, R. Paul Vizzuso, Board Secretary, certify that as of February 28, 2022 no budgetary line-item account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and that the District financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance, and

Be It Further Resolved, that through the adoption of this resolution, we, the East Newark Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, certify that as of February 28, 2022 after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

3-1175-22 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Monthly Transfer Reports as submitted for the month ended February 28, 2022.

3-1176-22 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Bill List as submitted in the amount of \$173,373.32 for March 23, 2022 is hereby approved and payment authorized as funds of the board are made available following this meeting.

3-1177-22 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the 2022-2023 budget.

WHEREAS, the East Newark Board of Education adopted a tentative budget on March 17, 2022 to be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on March 24, 2022; and

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WHEREAS, the tentative budget was advertised in the legal section of the Jersey Journal on March 24, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the final budget was presented to the public during a public hearing on March 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the budget for General Fund Expenses shall be \$7,328,979 of which \$1,542,401 shall be raised by tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the budget for Special Revenue Fund Expense shall be \$1,892,550 of which \$0.00 shall be raised by tax levy; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Newark Board of Education hereby adopts the 2022-2023 School Year budget; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that there should be raised for the General Funds \$1,542,401 for the ensuing School Year 2022-2023.

3-1178-22 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the Auditor's Management Report and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the East Newark Public School for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021, have been received from our Auditors, Samuel Klein and Company; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that audit rules and regulations promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:23-5) requires the Board of Education to read and discuss the audit recommendations made by the Auditors in the annual audit; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of the minutes of the Board meeting, together with a Corrective Action Plan (attached) be submitted within 30 days after the audit is received by the Board, to the State Department of Education through the Hudson County Superintendent of Schools; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education accepts the Auditor's Management Report, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended, June 30, 2021 and the recommendations included therein, and approves the Corrective Action Plan as submitted.

3-1179-22 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acknowledge the second reading of the following policies:

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Second Reading				
Policy	Status	Regulation	Title	Summary
2415.05	Mandated Revised		Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluation, Examinations, Testing, Or Treatment	Provides additional details regarding the Federal Code and Regulations
2431.4	Mandated Revised	2431.4	Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and head Injuries	Addresses revisions in N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.2 and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.4
2451	Mandated Revised		Adult High School	Reflects new code language and terminology.
2460.30	Mandated New	2460.30	Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services	Addresses the provisions of the recently passed State law P.L. 2021
2622	Mandated Revised	2622 New	Student Assessment	Addresses revisions in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, standards and assessment.
3233	Revised		Political Activities	Replacement of verbiage
5460	Mandated Revised		High School Graduation	Includes updated language and provisions from N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1; 6A:8-5.2; and 6A:8-5.3.
5541	Mandated New		Anti-Hazing	Requires the district's anti-hazing policy be applied to conduct on or off school grounds.
7540	Revised		Joint Use of Facilities	Revision of the term "board of chosen freeholders".
8465	Mandated Revised	8465	Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts	Updated to align with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e) and the MOA
9560	Mandated Revised		Administration of School Surveys	Updated to reflect the enactment of P.L. 2021 c. 156

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- 3-1180-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the sale of the 2010 Chevrolet School Bus (VIN# 1GBHG31C181221769) through GovDeals.com at the auction price of \$8,800.
- 3-1181-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the FY22 ESEA Amendment as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Title I-A | \$ 322,075 |
| Title II-A | \$ 66,218 |
| Title III | \$ 750 |
| Title IV – Part A | \$ 19,589 |
- 3-1182-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the termination of the 2021-2022 Tuition Contract with Sawtelle Learning Center for student# 6406190387 due to parental request to homeschool, effective 3/1/2022.
- 3-1183-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the termination of home instruction for student#4778098519 due to parental request to homeschool, effective 3/1/2022.
- 3-1184-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the 2021-2022 Tuition Contract with Bonnie Brae, effective March 9, 2022 for the following student.
- Student# 3597681186 – yearly cost \$28,980
- 3-1185-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Revised 2021-2022 Tuition Contract with the Kearny Board of Education for the following student.
- Student# 7104712865 – yearly cost \$25,480 (LLD5) and \$5,940 (E/S)
- 3-1186-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following evaluations through the Gloucester County Special Services School District for student# 5157456913 as per attached fee schedule.
- FBA Evaluation
 - Social History
 - Speech and Language
- 3-1187-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Agreement with Kid Clan Services for Occupational Therapy Evaluations at the rate of \$350 per evaluation.
- 3-1188-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Ashley Fullerton as a Substitute Teacher at the rate of \$100/day, effective March 16, 2022 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3-1189-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Elida Rueda Duque as a Substitute Teacher, effective March 1, 2022 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3-1190-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the job description for Grade 8 “Graduation” Coordinator as attached.

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- 3-1191-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Derris Brown as Yearbook and Graduation Coordinator at a stipend of \$1,000 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3-1192-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Isabella Luniewski as Yearbook and Graduation Coordinator at a stipend of \$1,000 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3-1193-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amends resolution# 12-1113-21 to read as follows:
Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Brandon Fronjian as Basketball Coach with a stipend of \$869.77 (**per team: Boys/Girls**) for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3-1194-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amends resolution# 12-1114-21 to read as follows:
Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Karen Rivadeneira as Assistant Basketball Coach with a stipend of \$600 (**per team: Boys/Girls**) for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3-1195-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, amends resolution# 3-1171-22 Pre-School Education Aide (PEA) for the 2022-2023 school year to reflect the state aide award of \$575,880.
- 3-1196-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the I-ready incentive for grades 3-5 and grades 6-8 as per attachment.
- 3-1197-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Powerschool license and subscription for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$3,889.71.
- 3-1198-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Remember Me Project Agreement for the 8th grade yearbooks in the amount of \$385.50 plus shipping as attached.
- 3-1199-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs, LLC to serve as indemnification counsel for Carla Fernandes regarding SEC CB-22.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Corbett requested a meeting with the Mayor regarding the school bond for building restoration

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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Motion by: Mr. Ditchkus
Seconded by: Ms. Perez

BE IT RESOLVED, that with no further business to come before the East Newark Board of Education, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m., all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Paul Vizzuso".

R. Paul Vizzuso
Business Administrator/Board Secretary